



It was pleasant to see the finest audience of the week in attendance at the Theater last night, and equally pleasant to learn that the advance demands for the two closing performances this afternoon and evening, insure a handsome wind-up to what has been the most memorable engagement we have known in years. The distinction of a big part of the public to pay \$2 a seat, Holy Week, and the trying strain on theatergoers of three months' open house, contributed to keep the attendance down in the early part of the week, but the audiences have steadily grown, and the total results will reach a figure that the average traveling combination would have good reason to rub its hands over, though they may seem small to an actor like Willard, accustomed as he is to count up his weeks at \$20,000 or more.

"The Cardinal" last night was as admirably presented as before, and the audience gave Mr. Willard and his fine company round after round of applause. Tonight Mr. Willard will say, not good-bye we hope, but au revoir, in "The Professor's Love Story," probably the most charming of all his conceptions.

It is not too much to say that Mr. Willard leaves the deepest impress of

is very expensive. "Judah" was shelved for another reason. You know the part of Vashti, played here by Miss Burroughs, is really the central figure and people where "Judah" was played were good enough to say they wished to see me in a play where I was center upon the stage. For that reason, mainly, "Judah" is not now being done. It is possible and I hope probable, that we shall do "The Middleman" next year.

"And Hamlet," Mr. Willard. Is there no likelihood that we shall have the pleasure of seeing you in that role? You often play it do you not?" "Yes, I have played it, but it takes a company selected for purely Shakespearean works. The company I have this season is adapted especially to the class of works we are now rendering. It may be that I shall do Hamlet at some future time."

One cannot converse with Mr. Willard without being surprised at the youthful and fresh appearance of his face. He really looks no more than 40, though in reality he is perhaps closer to 50. One peculiarity of his delineations is that he employs little or none of the grease paint so liberally used by other actors. His face is almost untouched by either paint or powder. He said that he relied almost entirely on his wigs to create the impression he desired to convey, and those who have beheld him in the four different roles of the Cardinal, the Professor, Garrick and Tom Pinch, will realize what a study he has made in this direction. He seldom or never acts a part that calls for the use of beards or mustaches, and in that he shows good judgment, for his hand-



MR. J. J. McCLELLAN,

Director of the "Chimes of Normandy" Co. at the Grand.

results everywhere seem to be bearing out the assertion. It goes without saying that Miss Van Buren remains the leading lady of the company.

The plays billed for next week, and the order of their presentation, after "Blue Jeans," are the following: "Madame Sans Gene," "Brother Officers," "In Mizoura," "The Girl I Left Behind Me," "Alabama," and "Secret Service." It is the strongest repertoire and the largest, Frawley has ever taken on the road.

Serpentine ..... Miss Rosemary Glosz  
Germaine ..... Miss Luella Ferrin  
Henri (Marquis) ..... Mr. H. S. Goddard  
Gaspard (The Miser) ..... Mr. B. S. Young  
Greenechux (The Fisherman) .....  
..... Mr. Fred Graham  
Ballie ..... Mr. Ed Midgley  
Manette ..... Miss Elsie Barrow  
Gertrude ..... Miss Mabel Poulton  
Janette ..... Miss Gussie Johnson

The above is the full cast of the "Chimes of Normandy," which Mr. Hammer presents as his Conference bill. The sale of seats begins Monday and the indications are that there will be a rush. The company plays without any opposition Wednesday afternoon and evening and Thursday evening as well. Friday and Saturday being the Conference dates, and Monday and Tuesday the nights after Conference, when people remain over to take in the amusements. Mr. Hammer and Prof. McClellan, who has charge of the production, confident can expect heavy business. "The Chimes of Normandy" is so well known and so popular here, that it needs no words of commendation or introduction.

The popular Orpheus club of this city will make its first appearance in the Theater for a number of years, next Tuesday evening, introducing the famous violin virtuoso, Miss Leonora Jackson. Miss Jackson has both a European and American reputation, and next autumn it is said she will play before the czar at St. Petersburg. The Orpheus club has long been in communication with her, and they look for a handsome audience to greet her Tuesday evening. In addition to the club, Mr. Harry J. Feltows, tenor, and Mr. William Bauer, pianist, who travel with Miss Jackson, will be heard.

The remarkable purity of articulation and nicety of pronunciation displayed by E. S. Willard on the stage have led a London playgoer to recall the definition given by a contemporary of David Garrick's: "In just articulation, the words are not hurried over, nor precipitated syllable over syllable, nor, as it were, melted together into a mass of confusion; they are neither abridged, nor prolonged, nor swallowed, nor forced, nor shot from the mouth; they are not trilled, nor drawled, nor let to slip out carelessly."

## THEATER GOSSIP.

When Maude Adams played in Washington recently she visited the Senate as the guest of Senator Hanna.

Blanche Douglas, wife of Ralph Cummings, has many friends in Salt Lake who will be pleased to see her with the Frawley company.

E. J. Morgan and Elsie Leslie are playing "The Christian" in San Francisco; unfortunately they return to the east by the southern route.

It has been decided that Mary Manning and Kyrie Bellow will revive "The Lady of Lyons" for a spring tour opening in New York May 15.

Henry Miller and Margaret Anglin head a company which plays a summer engagement at the Columbia theatre in San Francisco. For some strange reason Salt Lake is only to see them a single night "en passant."

Ada Dwyer, of Kyle Bellew's company, is one of the most popular women in the dramatic profession, says the New York World. "Charming" is the word most often applied to Miss Dwyer. As an actress her ability is well known. In private life she is the wife of Harold Russell, the actor. Miss Dwyer is now counting the days to the end of the season, when she can bid her to Salt Lake City and her only child. The Russells have made themselves a beautiful home out there beyond the Rockies, but the most beautiful thing in it or about it is the little daughter who innocently awaits their coming every year.

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MARY VAN BUREN.

The popular young actress whose work as leading lady of the Frawley company, has given her a high position in the dramatic profession.

his genius upon this community of theatergoers that any actor has done who has visited us since Booth and Barrett. Indeed, running over in the mind the long list of players now before the public, one cannot think of a single name—with the exception of that of Sir Henry Irving—who possesses all the qualities that go to make up an actor to the extent that Mr. Willard does. In personal presence, magnetism, richness of voice, taste in producing, training in the best schools—he has all the attributes that constitute legitimacy. Aside from Irving, there is not an actor one can think of, who any longer essays the role of Hamlet—not one whom it would not be something of a bore to listen to. Yet we fancy Mr. Willard would play the Danish prince as it has not been played since the days of Booth, and we would travel a long way for the pleasure of hearing the music of his voice in the famous soliloquy.

We bid you Godspeed, Mr. Willard, along the royal road you are traveling, and our toast to you is, "May you live long enough to realize the high ideal you have marked out as your goal."

Mr. Willard is so retiring, accepts so few social attentions, and is generally so difficult to gain access to, that "News" representative regarded it as a special privilege to be granted a few minutes interview by the great actor between the acts the other night. Mr. Willard received the reporter with a warm handshake and with a play of the smile that has proved the "open sesame" to so many thousand hearts, and asking him to be seated, he led the conversation in a quiet but genial fashion that set one at ease immediately.

The reporter murmured a few words of regret that the rare feast Mr. Willard and his company were spreading should be enjoyed by such a sparse attendance of guests. Mr. Willard's smile was even more charming than before, as he answered, "It is no surprise to me, and you do not hear us making any complaint. Our business, though not large, could by no means be called small. Considering this is a season week, it is quite satisfactory. Many actors cease playing altogether this week. Wherever we were we should expect to suffer. I feel well repaid at the many signs of appreciation I have observed in the audience this week and especially with the compliments bestowed our company by your papers. Do not understand me—again with that bewitching smile—"that I am above appreciating the value of the dollar. I work for it as ardently as any man, I suppose, but it is by no means the only thing for which we strive."

Mr. Willard was asked what had become of "The Middleman" and "Judah."

"We could not bring 'The Middleman' along this year," was his answer. "Because it is so heavy a production. It takes three carloads, you know, to convey our scenery and that

some, classic face is one that should never be in the least degree hidden or disguised.

It will be a big and jolly party of singers that visits Ogden next Tuesday night. More than one hundred members of the Frawley company, headed by Prof. Stephens, will take a special train to the Junction City to unite with the good people there in testifying their respect to the young musician, Mr. Squire Coop, who has just returned from Berlin. The affair is in the hands of Supt. Allison and is being tendered by the people of Weber county, as a mark of respect to one of her gifted sons who has acquired no small modicum of fame as a musician. Mr. Stephens and his singers join the committee in Ogden on account of their feeling of comradeship to Mr. Coop, who is not only an old friend of the "Clear" at St. Petersburg. The choir for a short time. Quite a number of leading soloists will bear the choir company, and a rare program has been arranged. The excursion party will return immediately after the concert.

Daniel Frawley is after records at the Salt Lake theatre. Next Friday evening sees the beginning of an engagement by his company, extending over nine days, and consisting of eleven performances, the repertoire comprising seven famous plays.

The management doubtless had in mind the conference crowds when it was decided to open in "Blue Jeans," which will be presented Friday and Saturday nights, and for a matinee Saturday. "Blue Jeans" is Joseph Arthur's celebrated Hoosier melo-drama, sometimes known as the "buzz-saw drama," a title it gets from one of the sensational climaxes. It exhibits the ignorance, the prejudice, the political bigotry and the honesty of yeomanry little known to our stage, but redolent of the soil of Posey county, Indiana. When the play was brought out in New York, years ago, it had a run of 300 nights, and was witnessed by more than a half million people. The record stood for a long while as the largest attendance any previous success had enjoyed in the metropolis.

The Frawley company has been practically reorganized since its last visit. Fortune smiled upon the actor-manager, when, by a peculiar succession of circumstances, he secured the services of three players, who were prominent in Gotham's theatrical circles last year. These are Benjamin Howard, Ben Johnson and May Buckley. Mr. Howard was formerly leading man, playing Don Juan, with Viola Allen, in "In the Palace of the King." Mr. Johnson is an old stock actor. He was with Arthur Byron in "Peticoats and Bayonets" until the ill-fated starring tour closed. May Buckley made a substantial hit in "The Price of Peace" in New York last season. As June in "Blue Jeans," she is credited with a beautiful performance. It required some handsome offers to bring the trio out of New York, but Mr. Frawley has not yet lived to regret it. He modestly claims that his company today is head and shoulders above that which established itself as a favorite in Salt Lake in seasons gone by, and financial

They are delivered from the lips as beautiful coins newly issued from the mint, deeply and accurately impressed, perfectly finished, neatly struck by the proper organs, distinct, sharp, in due succession and of due weight."

## MUSIC NOTES.

Tabernacle choir people who saw the Tivoli Opera company render "The Serenade" in San Francisco say that the presentation was a very fine one, but that it could not equal "The Bostonians." The Tivoli company, by the way, puts in a full week in Salt Lake next fall.

Camille D'Arville has decided to return to the stage, after one whole year of domestic life. Her husband is a very wealthy man who takes long business trips abroad and Mrs. D'Arville says that she will put in a year on the stage while her husband is absent on business. She also adds that she simply cannot resist the fascination of the footlights.

Mr. Willard Welke has kindly consented to continue temporarily as lead violinist of the Salt Lake Theater orchestra, owing to the great difficulty Mr. Shepherd found in procuring an extra man. Mr. Skelton, who has assisted through the Willard engagement, is under contract with the Christensen Bros., and could not appear after this week.

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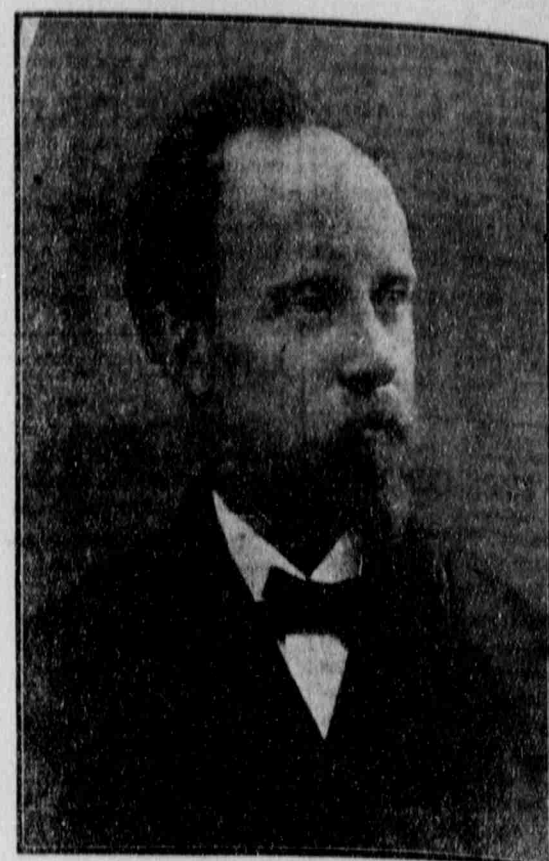
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## OLD SALT LAKERS.



GEORGE A. MEEARS.

Poor George Mearns!—will be the feeling that will involuntarily rise in thousands of minds when this picture meets their gaze. Mr. Mearns was one of the most active, public spirited, and benevolent of our business men for 30 years prior to the panic of 1893, but he was one of the many who succumbed to the storms of that time.

Mr. Mearns came to Utah from England when a mere boy, having arrived with his parents, who were old and respected residents of Willard, Mr. Mearns once served as telegraph operator at that place. He was connected with Walker Brothers for some years, having charge of their extensive liquor establishment on East Second South. Later he became heavily interested in mining and was one of the owners of the old Morgan Mining company. He was in high hopes of winning a fortune when the financial crash of '93 carried away all his possessions. He found himself heavily involved and preyed upon his extremely sensitive nature to the extent that his mind became temporarily unbalanced, and while in this condition, he put an end to his life on July 8, 1893. George Mearns will be well remembered by all old timers for his marksmanship, as he was one of the best shots and most expert hunters in the west. He was 47 years old at the time of his death.

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"THE GIRL I LEFT  
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FRIDAY

"ALABAMA."

SAT. MAT. and NIGHT

"Secret Service."